

"Part VII. Forsyth Occupancy Tax.

~~"Sec. 24. Levy of Tax. (a) The Board of Commissioners of Forsyth County may by resolution, after not less than 10 days' public notice and after a public hearing held pursuant thereto, levy a room occupancy and tourism development tax.~~

~~(b) Collection of the tax, and liability therefor, shall begin and continue only on and after the first day of a calendar month set by the board of county commissioners in the resolution levying the tax, which in no case may be earlier than the first day of the second succeeding calendar month after the date of adoption of the resolution.~~

~~"Sec. 25. Occupancy Tax. – Authorization and Scope. – The county room occupancy and tourism development tax that may be levied under this Part shall be The Board of Commissioners of Forsyth County may levy a room occupancy and tourism development tax of two percent (2%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or similar accommodation furnished by any hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or other similar place within the county now subject to the three percent (3%) sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(3) that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(3). This tax is in addition to any State or local sales tax. This tax does not apply to gross receipts derived by the following entities from accommodations furnished by them: any of the following:~~

- ~~(1) Religious organizations. religious organizations;~~
- ~~(2) Educational organizations. educational organizations;~~
- ~~(3) Any any business that offers to rent fewer than five units. units; and~~
- ~~(4) Summer summer camps.~~

~~"Sec. 26. Administration of Tax. (a) – A tax levied under this Part shall be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in G.S. 153A-155. The penalties provided in G.S. 153A-155 apply to a tax levied under this section. Any tax levied under this Part is due and payable to the county in monthly installments on or before the 15th day of the month following the month in which the tax accrues. Every person, firm, corporation, or association liable for the tax shall, on or before the 15th day of each month, prepare and render a return on a form prescribed by the county. The return shall state the total gross receipts derived in the preceding month from rentals upon which the tax is levied.~~

~~(b) Any person, firm, corporation, or association who fails or refuses to file the return required by this Part shall pay a penalty of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each day's omission.~~

~~(c) In case of failure or refusal to file the return or pay the tax for a period of 30 days after the time required for filing the return or for paying the tax, there shall be an additional tax, as a penalty, of five percent (5%) of the tax due, in addition to the penalty prescribed in subsection (b), with an additional tax of five percent (5%) for each additional month or fraction thereof until the occupancy tax is paid.~~

~~(d) Any person who willfully attempts in any manner to evade the occupancy tax imposed by this Part or to make a return and who willfully fails to pay the tax or make and file a return shall, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both.~~

~~"Sec. 27. Collection of Tax. Every operator of a business subject to the tax levied by this Part shall, on and after the effective date of the levy of the tax, collect the two percent (2%) room occupancy tax. This tax shall be collected as part of the charge for the furnishing of any taxable accommodations. The tax shall be stated and charged separately from the sales records, and shall be paid by the purchaser to the operator of the business as trustee for and on account of Forsyth County. The room occupancy tax levied pursuant to this Part shall be added to the sales price and shall be passed onto the purchaser instead of being borne by the operator of the business. The county shall design, print, and furnish to all appropriate businesses in Forsyth County the necessary forms for filing returns and instructions to ensure the full collection of the tax.~~